



# KidsNewsZone

Vol 11 #3 2014



**CHILDREN'S  
MINISTRIES**

MISSION: TO NURTURE CHILDREN INTO A LOVING, SERVING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

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#### KidsNewsZone

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## EVERY CHILD IS Special!

Describing the birth of Moses, Hebrews 11: 23 says, "By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict." Moses was born when the situation was tough for Hebrew parents. The Bible records the story of Moses not because he is the only boy who was born during that period. Many parents lost their baby boys. The Bible records the story of Moses because it is a success story. It is a story depicting parents who worked against all kinds of odds to save their child. And they prevailed.

Albert Einstein from birth seemed to have many disadvantages. His head seemed too big and some members of the family on the onset, considered him deformed. And as he grew, his grandmother kept complaining that he was too fat. When he started school Albert was very absent-minded and considered to be a slow learner.

He did not always pass his exams. In 1895 he failed his entrance examinations for the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. But right from an early age, his parents and some of his significant others did not give up. They recognized that in spite of the appearance of deformation, he was no ordinary child.

This child, who was born "deformed", was a slow developer and had failed an important entrance exam, eventually discovered the theory of relativity and was named "Person of the Century" by Time magazine.

Many times it is difficult to see great qualities in children. There are some children, if we were to be honest with ourselves, we don't want them in our Sabbath classes. How thrilled we become when they are upgraded to another class. When running a VBS, there some





COME, YE CHILDREN, HEARKEN UNTO ME: I WILL  
TEACH YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

(PSALM 34:11 KJV)



kids who act like ‘quicksilver’—mercury. No sooner do you see them here than they are there. Then there these kids with verbal diarrhea. Their mouths will litter all kinds of adjectives. Then there are those with strangely active hands. Their hands are into everything. The list goes on. And some of them their parents don’t appreciate our efforts. We just wish these kids had not crossed our path.

But every child is special. If the parents of Moses had not put their best foot forward as they worked hard to save their son from the decree of the destroyer, the world would have lost a great leader. If the parents of Albert Einstein had not been patient, Albert was not going to become what he became.

As you work with children look beyond what meets the eye. Every child comes labeled by God “Handle with Care. Made in my Image.” Don’t look at the effect of sin on that child. God has brought an “Albert Einstein” or a “Moses” to you to raise for Him. Pray that God gives you spiritual eyesight to see qualities in a child your human eyes cannot see. Ask God to help you understand why He has allowed that child to cross your path. Remember, every child is special!

*Saustin Sampson Mfune*  
Associate Director

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES NEWS



## AROUND THE WORLD

### ISRAEL FIELD

#### Children's Camp

On September, 24-27, Svetlana Shchelkunov, CHM Director of IF organized a children's camp for children and their parents. A total 178 attended involving 41 families, ten of which are non-Adventist families. It was indeed a multinational camp: 7 Ghanian families, Russian speaking Jewish families, one Israeli Hebrew speaking family and one Arab Muslim family.

Some of these non-Adventist families that attended last year's camporee had the opportunity of visiting our churches together with their children. The children were taking part in the Pathfinders, Adventurers and Eager Beavers Clubs. This year they also attended the camp. The leaders believe that these camps are a very strong missionary project for IF. Parenting seminars were provided for parents and special children's programs for the kids. Such camps are great avenues of outreach to the community.



► Israel children's camp

7-9. Dr. Mfune presented three seminars. In a seminar entitled 'You cannot go through life stoning people,' Mfune talked on principles of building a child's self-esteem. In his divine service sermon 'The empty walk,' he pointed out of the dangers of assumptions. And Sabbath the afternoon seminar, Mfune talked on the ten dangers of TV for children below the age of three.

About 150 people were in attendance and a number of them appreciated the information learned. One attendee lamented saying, "Our problem is not lack of knowledge but rather putting into practice what we learn." It hoped that the information acquired will be put to good use.



► Living Faith SDA Community Church

### NORTH AMERICA DIVISION

#### Living Faith SDA Community Church – Allegheny East Conference

Dr. Saustin Sampson Mfune and his wife Gertrude were guests of Living Faith SDA Community Church the weekend of November

### SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION

#### School in Discipleship Training in Zimbabwe

SID sponsored School in Discipleship Training program in conjunction with the Children's Ministries Department. Schools in Discipleship is designed to mobilize each team to work together with an evangelistic mindset to disciple every student in a church school to Jesus Christ. Pastor Don MacLafferty, Founder/



Director of Schools In Discipleship provided training for teachers, administrators and pastors from the Adventist schools in the three conferences of Zimbabwe, to help them build discipleship principles within the school system working hand in hand with home and the church.

The participants had an opportunity to visit Anderson Adventist High School to apply what they had just learnt. Students were given time to interact one on one, with participants for purposes of counseling. Later that night a bonfire was set where after a presentation by Ps Don, students recommitted themselves to the Lord and His Mission



► School of Discipleship



## SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION

### Northeast India Union – Children’s Congress



► Children’s Congress

Jemima Sangma, CHM Director of the Northeast India Union organized the first ever Children’s Congress on October 22-25, 2014 in one of the Adventist schools in Shillong, NEIU’s headquarters. A total of 275 children from all over the union came to this historical event. Each day was filled with plenary sessions, devotional talks, prayer groups, arts and crafts, and games. Dr. Linda Koh, GC CHM Director also presented plenary sessions and Sabbath sermon. Drs. Victor Sam, SUD CHM Director and Deborah Samraj, Assistant CHM Director were also present to give the devotionals. The children were involved in every part of the program, leading out in song service, prayer, announcements, collecting offering on Sabbath, preaching and sharing testimonies. It was wonderful to allow the children and teens to use their gifts and talents for the Lord.

Sabbath night was the grand finale with a campfire that kept everyone warm in the cool weather. Children and teens from different states presented interesting and lively cultural dances and musical items. They were asking for another congress next year.

### South India/South-Central India Unions – Leadership Training and Children’s Congress

A leadership training seminar for about twenty-five children’s ministries directors and leaders from both the South India and South-Central India Unions was organized by Pastor Peter Halemane, CHM Director of South-Central India Union. It was held at the SCIU Headquarters on October 17, 2014. Linda Koh, GC CHM conducted the training using Level III of the certification program. The leaders were so appreciative of the information given them and each received new children’s resources such as Celebrations; Healthy Inside Out, the Musical Journey songbook and also the Prayer calendar and journal.

Then on Sabbath a children’s congress was organized for children of SCIU. All the participants during the hour of worship were children and teens. The afternoon involved children in preaching, singing, Bible quiz, and story telling. It was amazing to see the gifts and talents given by God to these children.



► SCIU/SIU leadership training 1 & 2



SEE THAT YOU DO NOT DESPISE ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES.  
FOR I TELL YOU THAT IN HEAVEN THEIR ANGELS ALWAYS SEE  
THE FACE OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.

(MATTHEW 18:10 ESV)



## SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

### Sabbath Worship at Luang Prabang Church, Laos

Sim Sew Moi, Children's and Women's Ministries Director of SAUM reports of her observations in several churches in the Laos area. The Hmong church in Luang Prabang in Laos packs its 30 members 15 children and 7 babies in a tiny 'church.' They worship in a tiny living room of the Pastor's house which belongs to his non SDA father. The September heat is an unbearable. They don't have materials for children. And the Sabbath she was there, they were raising money for a guitar or keyboard.

Pastor Kork, a Lao-American Pastor Tong Thor, with his very supportive wife Par Yang have been doing great job. Unfortunately many people, especially women, have no Bibles.

Poverty has carved a hard life for many people. It is pathetic to see many children wearing smiling faces, singing their hearts out in Sabbath School but don't have materials to use. Parents are working hard but are not able to afford Bibles for their families. May children wish they had Bibles of their own. There is indeed a need to get them Bibles!



► Hmong Churches

### Peninsula Malaysia Mission – Stone Painting Outreach

On 6th Sept 2014, the Utama Beacon Club of the Utama Beacon Resort Church in Selangor turned an otherwise normal Sab-



► Stone Painting

bath into an evangelistic event when they invited families and individuals to join a Stone Paining Class taught by Irene Chaw, an artistically-gifted woman with the help of her teenage daughters. On that eventful day, the Lord brought 34 visitors, of which 12 were children. Both the young and old started off with great excitement, expressing themselves through painting, unleashing their hidden talents. A warm dinner was later served to the guests, while they examined the finished masterpieces. We give thanks to our good Lord who gave us the opportunity in building relationships with the community.

### West Java Conference – A Mission-to-the City Evangelistic Campaign

GC Children's Ministries Director, Linda Koh together with SSD CHM Director, Miriam Andres conducted an evangelistic campaign in Bandung, Indonesia from September 20-27, 2014. It was divided into two phases. The first phase was conducted by Dr. Andres, Nelly Sihotang, CHM Director of West Indonesia Union and WIUM Education Director for students at three different Adventist schools using the program, "Truth 4 Youth." Then in the evening these students were also brought to attend the public evangelistic meeting.

The evening meetings of the evangelistic campaign were held at the Cahaya Garuda Convention Hall in downtown Bandung city with Dr. Koh as the main speaker who presented the End-Time Messages to a packed hall of over 1,200 attendees. Each night before the message, Dr. Miriam Andres presented 30 minutes of family topics.

The highlight of the evangelistic meeting was the baptism of 120 individuals, 80% of whom are teens and young people. Praise the Lord for the working of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of those who made the decision to follow Him.



► Evangelism in Bandung

### Vietnam Mission – First Mission-wide Children's Congress

The first mission-wide Children's Congress was held in Vam Nhon Church, July 7-9, 2014. The event was organized by Phuong Mai Tran, CHM Director of the mission with the help of thirteen youth, fifteen children's leaders, pastors and church members of the Vam Nhon Church.



A total of 98 children ages 9-15 years attended. They came from six churches and ten house churches throughout Vietnam. The theme was "Be A Good Steward" and the response to the program was very encouraging and whole-heartedly supported by the church community.



► Vietnam children's congress

### Singapore Adventist Conference – Family Camp

On September 5-7, 2014, about 54 adults and children spent the weekend at Le Grandeur Resort for a time of family enjoyment. Dr Sally Phoon, CHM & WM Director of NSD and Dr Phoon Chek Yat, NSD Education and Family Ministries Director and Sim Sew Moi, CHM Director of SAUM were the main facilitators of the this Family Retreat. The retreat started out with both adults and children doing personality tests MBTI (Myers Briggs Type Indicator) and the MMTIC (Murphy-Meisgeier Type Indicator). The interpretation of results turned on light bulbs in many people's minds as they saw how the results related to understanding and building better families.

The Phoons presented a parenting seminar "Bridging the Love Gap" and a couple's seminar "Bridging the Love Gap through Conflict Resolution". The children and teens had their own fun activities led by Sim Sew Moi and 2 volunteers.

Families designed and decorated their family photos on a plate. The retreat ended with a graduation, a family meal and short family commitment and prayer. Each family was given a family commitment certificate and each family member signed the certificate. The last session on Sunday morning was filled with fun recreation activities. Everyone left the place feeling rejuvenated and blessed.



► Singapore Family Retreat

## SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

### Pacific Islands Evangelism and Training

There are wonderful news coming from the Pacific Islands according to Julie Weslake, SPD Children's Ministries Director. Vanuatu had a huge city evangelistic meeting and at the end approximately 200 children were baptized into the church.

In other evangelistic meetings of two Missions in Papua New Guinea, a challenge and call for parents and church members to shape lifelong faith was given by Julie, and the response was great. When a call was made to children to commit their lives to become disciples of Jesus, all responded. Then a call was made for those who wanted to be prepared for baptism. A total of 6 girls in Bougainville and 16 in Wewak came forward for baptism.



► Evangelistic meeting in Vanuatu



WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I SPAKE AS A CHILD, I FELT AS A CHILD, I THOUGHT AS A CHILD: NOW THAT I AM BECOME A MAN, I HAVE PUT AWAY CHILDISH THINGS.

(1 CORINTHIANS 13:11 ASV)



All 1,000 who attended these meetings received a copy of Michael Asks Why? and the Book of Hope. The Kids Preach Book 2 based on the 5 Big questions Kids need answered - where did I come from, who is God, how do I connect with Him, what happens when I die, where is heaven.

During the leadership training at Samoa and Vanuatu, and at the EXPO in Fiji, Julie Weslake, SPD CHM Director launched her new resource, the Faith Shaper. It was her vision to get this all the way down to the local churches.



► Boys & girls commit for baptism



► Faith Shaper in Vanuatu



► Fiji Expo Faith Shaper



► Big City Evangelism resource pack



► Kids Preach

## TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION

### Scottish Mission – Campmeeting 24-26 October 2014

The highlight of Campmeeting 2014 was the way God used our main speaker, Dr Saustin Mfune. His speaking and singing ministry blessed those who attended. One attendee said, “He not only spoke so passionately on the theme ‘Digging Deeper’ but he also thrilled the children and parents with a fantastic, interactive Sabbath afternoon children’s program.” The Scottish Ministry children’s ministry sponsor, Jeniffer Oroko said, “We were so blessed. We have never seen anything this good before for our children at Camp meeting!” “Watching the smiles on the parent’s faces as the children took part in the program said it all to me,” said Pastor Bernie Holford, President of the Scottish Mission. “Often, children’s needs are neglected at spiritual gath-



► Faith Shaper in Samoa



► Children’s Activity: “Keep Your City Clean”



erings, but I praise God that Dr. Mfuné was able to bring such joy to the children, that they will never forget this special servant who gets down to their level to lift them up to God!”

Dr. Mfuné’s wife, Geretrude, gave a seminar entitled Holistic Parenting based on Luke 2:52. She also helped with children’s activities on Sunday. We thank the Lord for the ministry of the Mfuné’s in our Scottish Mission. (Reported by Bernie Holford—SM President)

### North England Conference – Loughborough Church Organizes Holiday Bible Club



► *Loughborough holiday bible club*

Holiday Bible Club was organized for 40 children from August 4-10, 2014. Some of the children were from the Messy Church program, some from previous holiday clubs, and some are new. The children enjoyed the story of Moses from baby to the Promised Land. The

Saturday program followed the traditional Messy Church format but the worship section was a program of songs, plays and prayers led by the children who had spent the week with us. They all brought their parents/grandpar-ents to watch. At the end of the week, a total of 54 children and adults attended the event.

### Loughborough Church, England – Messy Church

In September 2014 our theme for the Messy Church program was the story of Joshua. Activities included twisted red cords (for Rahab), trumpets, Promised Land paper flowers, stone painting, story corner, building bricks, two brave men mini books and me and my house cards. One group read the description of how to make the ark of the covenant and made a model to use in the worship when acting out walking around Jericho. Many families have come to all Messy Church sessions. One family have stopped coming due to health problems. They have asked for prayers and we are supporting with visits to mother and with oc-



► *Loughborough Messy Church*

casional child care as needed. Messy Church is really reaching out to many non-Adventists in the community.

### Netherlands Union Conference – Children’s Teachers & Leaders Training

A union-wide Sabbath School teachers training event was organized by Madelon Comvalius, CHM Director of the Netherlands Union, November 9, 2014. About 150 children’s leaders from all over the Netherlands Union gathered for a full day of training workshops. Clair Sanches, TED CHM Director and Linda Koh, GC CHM Director were present to conduct workshops. Clair did training for the ‘Messy Church’ program. There were many resources available for the leaders to purchase for their churches.



► *Netherlands leadership training*

### Albania Mission – Children’s Ministries Seminars

Clair Sanche, TED CHM Director and Linda Koh, GC CHM Director conducted seminars and training for children’s leaders at Korca, the first city where Adventist work began in Albania. The CHM Director of the Adriatic Union, Bobo Marceta also accompanied them. It was cold but a group of 20 non-Adventist children and teens welcomed them with beautiful songs about Jesus. The “Messy Church” concept was introduced.

The next day, more training was conducted in Tirana at the mission headquarters. Forty-two children’s leaders, both male and female, attended the training seminars. Clair again introduced the ‘Messy Church’ concept as an effective outreach to children and their families in the community. The children’s leaders were so excited about learning this new approach.



► *Albania CHM seminars*



AND SAID, 'TRULY I SAY TO YOU, UNLESS YOU ARE CONVERTED AND BECOME LIKE CHILDREN, YOU WILL NOT ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.'

(MATTHEW 18:3 NASB)



## THE S.M.I.L.E. APPROACH TO DISCIPLINE

According to Karl Bastian of Kidology, try these ways of interacting with children that will eliminate your discipline problems.

**SPEAK POSITIVELY** – good, construction and positive words help focus on the GOOD in a kid. Build them up and never tear them down. Don't just use the word "no." Affirm the child's worth. "How's my buddy doing?" "You are such a great kid!"

**MINIMIZE CONFLICT/MAINTAIN A WARM ATMOSPHERE** – kneel down on child's level; put your arm around them; compliment them; bring out a pocket toy; tell a joke; protect them from embarrassment before correcting them; offer rewards, but do not bribe.

**IDENTIFY & ACKNOWLEDGE WANT** – kids want fun and needs love. Sometimes what they want is at the wrong time, cost a lot, or it is not safe. Acknowledge that want and help meet them at the right time and in the right way.

**LAUGHTER** – keep it handy, sharp, and ready at all times for different age groups. Light tickling, say funny things, absurd riddles for younger ones; jokes, funny comments, etc. for primaries and teens.

**ENCOURAGE & ESTEEM** – instill a positive self image to help them grow and learn. You can say "That's great!" "Good idea" "You are getting it!"



## NEW RESOURCES

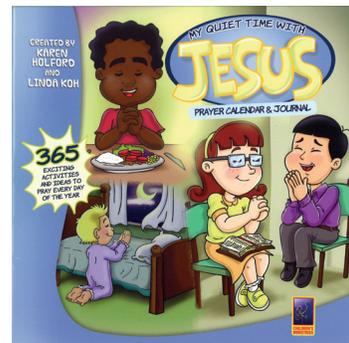
(Available from GC Children's Ministries)



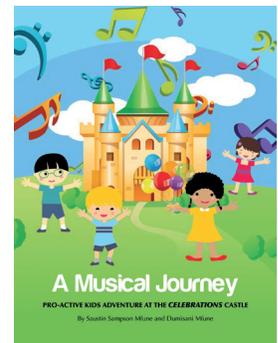
CELEBRATIONS!  
Healthy Inside Out!



HEALTHY INSIDE OUT  
Fun Skits for Kids



A QUIET TIME WITH JESUS  
Prayer Calendar & Journal



A MUSICAL JOURNEY  
Pro-Active Kids  
Adventure at the  
CELEBRATIONS Castle

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

### Children's Pastors Conference

JANUARY 21-24, 2015

Chattanooga, Tennessee

FEBRUARY 16-19, 2015

Ontario, California

Register: [incm.org/home/cpc-2015-registration/](http://incm.org/home/cpc-2015-registration/)

### Hand in Hand Conference

FEBRUARY 6-8, 2015

Register: [www.familyministry.co.uk](http://www.familyministry.co.uk)